Railways propose to introduce to pdevent recurrence of such accidents, and

(e) whether the electorical engines used for hauling the goods traffic are old and have lost their efficiency of pulling the desired pay load?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a)

(a) 8 during the year 1994-95.

(b) No, Sir. There has been sight increase from in 1993-94 to 8 in 1994-95.

(c) Yes. Sir. All the accidents were enquired into and were found to be caused by the failure of Railway Staff.

(d) No. Sir.

(e) Some of the electric engines used for hauling the goods traffic are old, but ageing does not reduce the efficiency of an electric locomotive to pull the desired load.

Accident of goods train at Vashind

4672. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have instituted any enquiry into goods train accident at Vashind on Central Railway; if so, what are the details thereof;

(b) whether the Railways are aware that accident was caused due to negligence of the driver, who has been arrested by the Railway police;

(c) whether it is a fact that the accident victims have been paid ex-gratia payment of Rs. 5,000/-;

(d) whether the Railways will consider payment of full compensation to the accident vitcims;

(e) whether the Railways have assessed damage to agricultural crops or agricultural land due to spill of petroleum products from the tank wagons involved in the accident into the agricultural fields; and

(f) whether Government propose to compensation to the land owners?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) Yes, Sir. Senior Officers Enquiry Committee enquired into the accident occurred at Vashind on 3.1.95. The enquiry committee held that the crew of the goods train did not take proper precautions in re-coupling the two parted loads on the graded section. The rear portion rolled down and ultimately capsized/derailed near Vashind station.

(b) It is a fact that a case under Section 304A and 437 IPC and Section 175 of Indian Railways Act has been registered by Government Railway Police/Kalyan against the driver of the goods train on 5-1-95. The case is under investigation by the Govt. Railway Police. However, the driver has not been arrested by the Govt. Railway Police so far.

(c) Although the victims were trespassers, on humanitarian grounds an ex-gratia payment of Rs. 5000/- each to the kith and kin of the 7 killed and Rs. 1000/- each to the 3 injured persons has been made.

(d) In view of the provisions of Indian Railways Act, 1989, compensation is not payable to the victims of the subject accident being trespassers.

(e) No such assesment has been made so far.

(f) In accordance with the provisions of the Indian Railways Act, 1989, compansation is not payable to the land owners.

Priority to loaded goods train

4673. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) how much time is required for delivery of a loaded goods train from Karanja Railway Station to Varangaon in normal course;